

Accessing Block Group Data with the American Community Survey Summary File

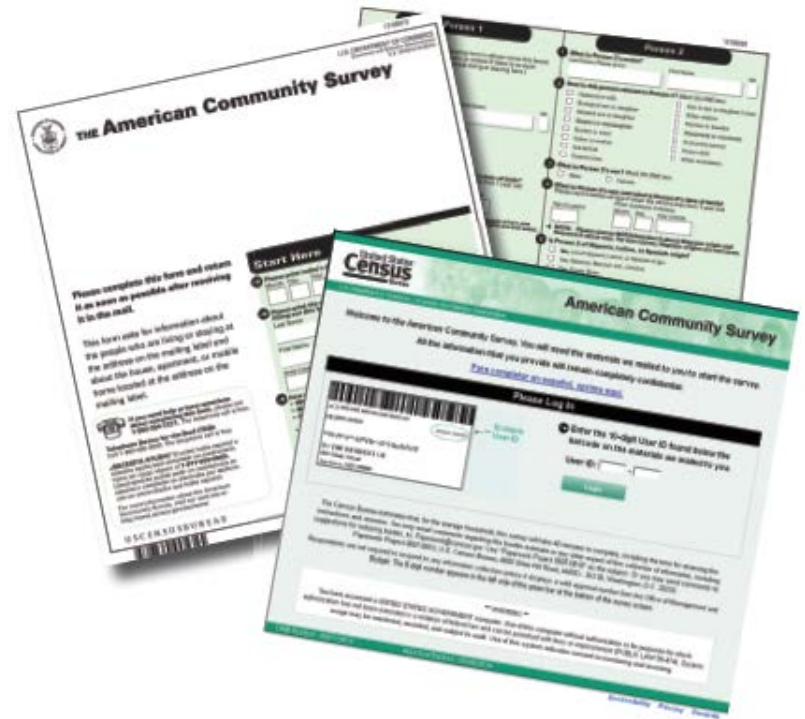
Gretchen Gooding
December 2013

Outline

- **American Community Survey (ACS) basics**
- Tracts and block groups
- Overview of ACS Summary File (ACS SF)
- Ways to access the ACS SF
 - FTP site
 - DataFerrett
 - Summary File Retrieval Tool
- Wrap up

What is the ACS?

- A large national survey that uses continuous measurement methods to produce detailed population and housing estimates each year
- Designed to produce critical information that was previously collected in the decennial census



American Community Survey

Content



Selected Census Geographic Concepts

Legal/Administrative Areas

- Nation
- States
- Counties
- Incorporated Places
- Minor Civil Divisions
- Congressional Districts
- State Legislative Districts
- School Districts
- Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs)

Statistical Areas

- Regions
- Divisions
- Census Designated Places
- Census County Divisions
- Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA)
- Census Tracts
- Block Groups

Availability of ACS Data Products

Estimated Population of Geographic Area	Type of ACS Estimates Released
65,000 or more	1-year, 3-year, 5-year
20,000 to 64,999	3-year, 5-year
Less than 20,000	5-year

Data Products Release Schedule

	Year of Data Release						
Type of Estimate	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	Year(s) of Data Collection						
1-Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3-Year	NA	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012
5-Year	NA	NA	NA	2005-2009	2006-2010	2007-2011	2008-2012

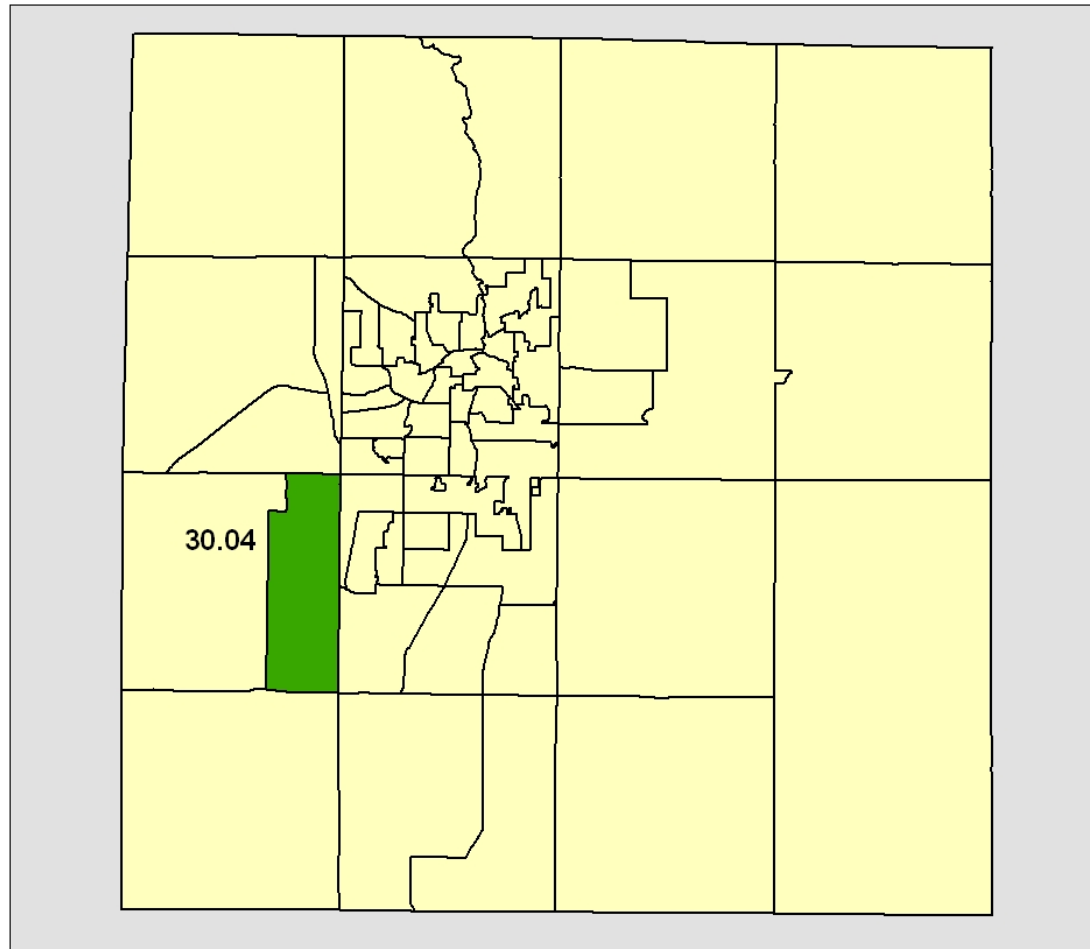
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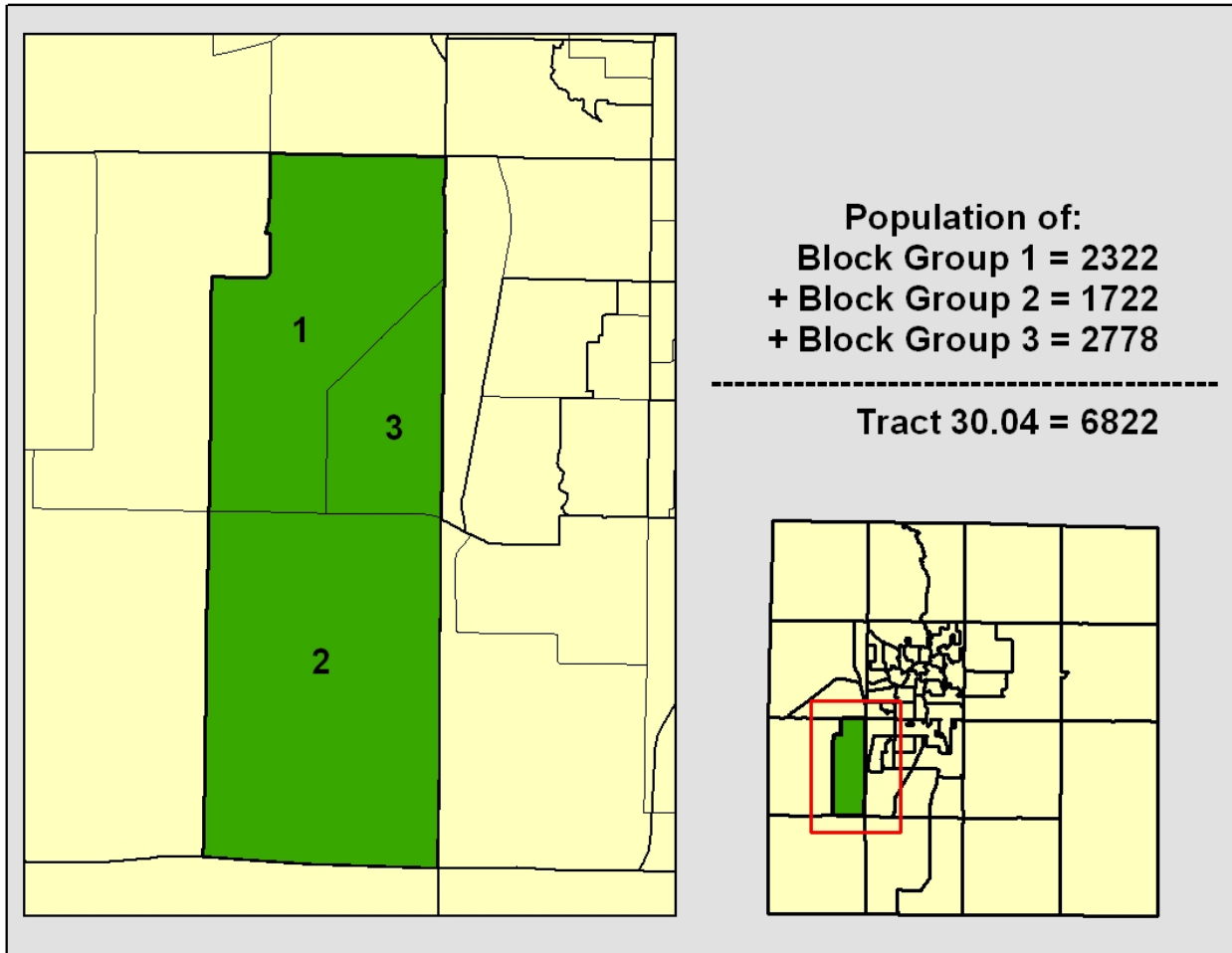
Tracts and Block Groups

- Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county
- Block groups are statistical subdivisions of census tracts and are the lowest level of geography available in the ACS
- Block group estimates are available only in the ACS Summary File, not American FactFinder
- Block groups and tracts are available only in the ACS 5-year estimates

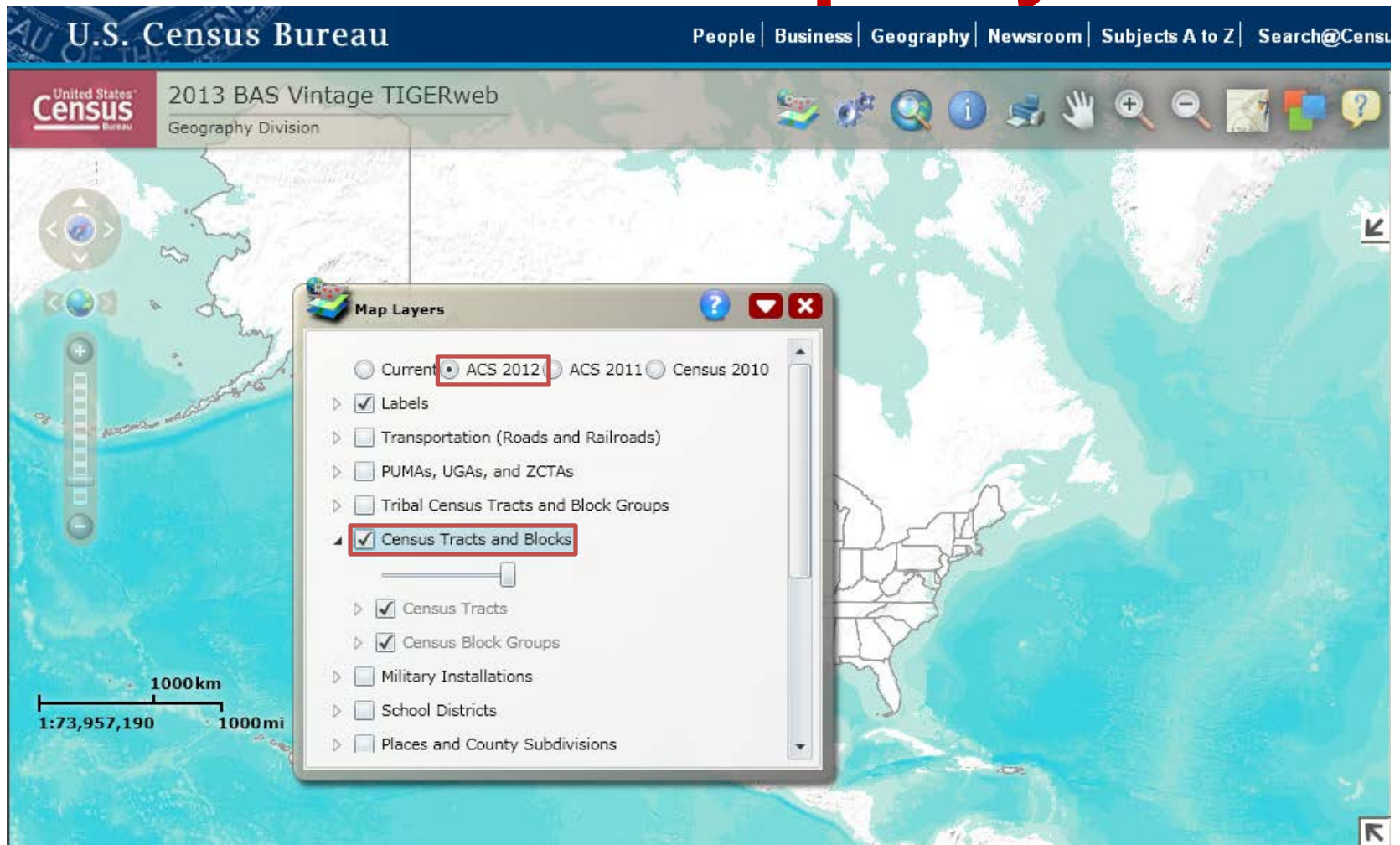
Kalamazoo County, MI - Census Tract 30.04



Kalamazoo County, MI - Census Tract 30.04, Block Groups 1, 2, & 3

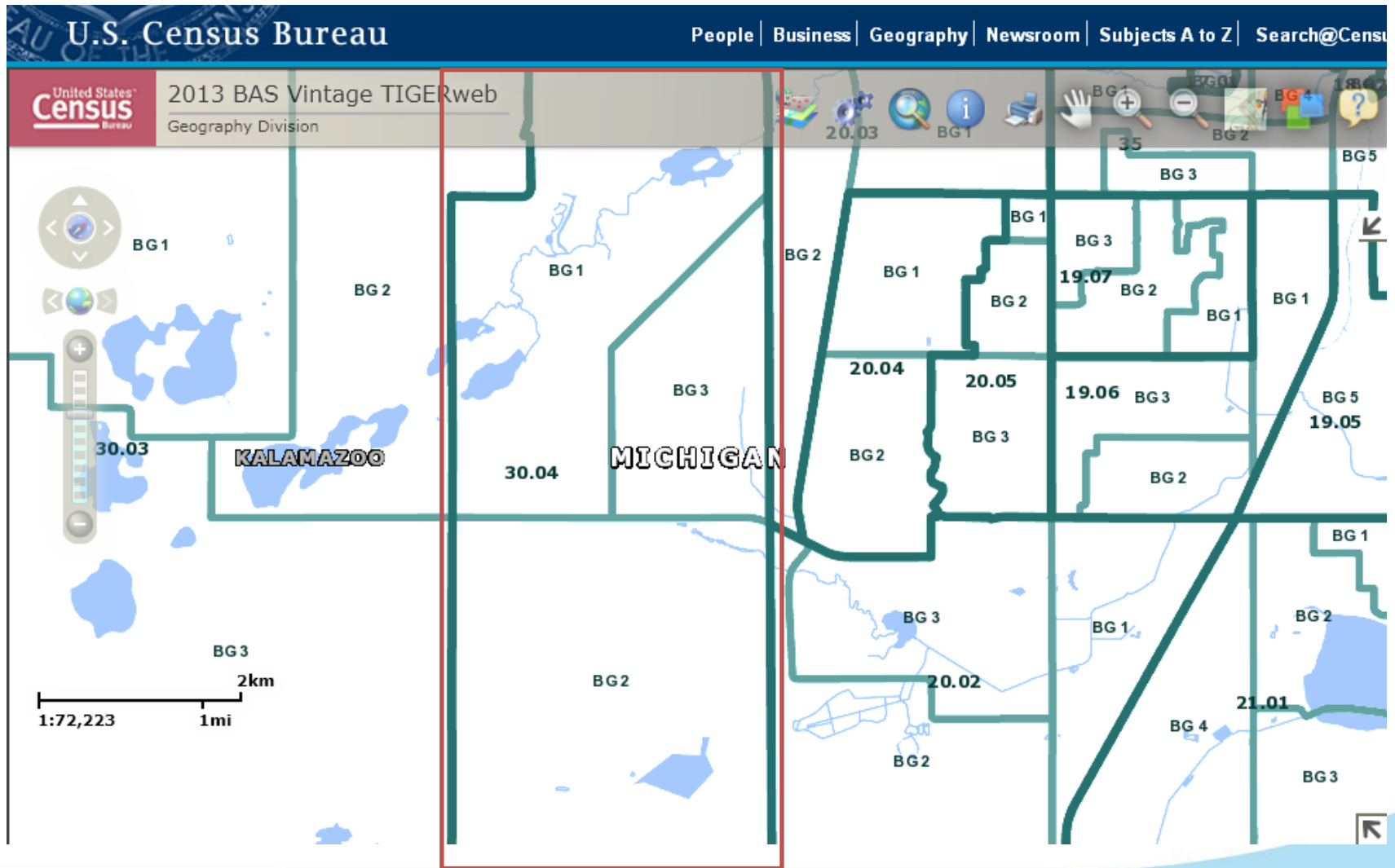


TIGERweb-Map Layers



<http://tigerweb.geo.census.gov/tigerweb/>

TIGERweb-Block Groups


















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What is the ACS Summary File?

- Set of comma-delimited text files that contain all of the Detailed Tables
- Stored in a series of files on the FTP site
- Files contain only the data from the tables (no information such as table title, description of the rows, etc)
- Data have already been tabulated for specific geographic areas

FTP Site

U.S. Department of Commerce			
<div> <div>United States[™] Census Bureau</div> <div> People Business Geography Data Research Newsroom </div> </div>			
<div> Home Blogs About Us Index A to Z </div>			
<div> <input type="text"/> Search </div>			
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 20121mi0014000.zip	11-Sep-2013 09:03	105K	

http://www2.census.gov/acs2012_1yr/summaryfile/2012_ACSSF_By_State_By_Sequence_Table_Subset/Michigan/

AFF vs. Summary File

B23025	EMPLOYMENT STATUS FOR THE POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER
	Universe: Population 16 years and over ⓘ
	2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

	Michigan	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	7,897,753	+/-4,903
In labor force:	4,832,544	+/-17,399
Civilian labor force:	4,829,177	+/-17,329
Employed	4,285,132	+/-17,643
Unemployed	544,045	+/-10,699
Armed Forces	3,367	+/-795
Not in labor force	3,065,209	+/-18,238

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey

e2012mi0115000.txt - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

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```

How to Use the ACS SF

1—Verify table is available at block group level

2—Use appropriate tool to access ACS SF
FTP site

DataFerrett

Summary File Retrieval Tool

Summary File Page

Census.gov > American Community Survey > Data & Documentation: Summary File

American Community Survey

Main About the Survey ▼ Guidance for Data Users ▼ **Data & Documentation ▼** Methodology ▼ Library ▼

- Data Releases
- Data Product Descriptions
- Documentation
- Geography
- Downloadable data via FTP
- Summary File**
- Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)
- Custom Tabulations

Summary File

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An ACS Summary File is a set of comma-delimited text files that contain all of the Detailed Tables for the ACS 1-year, 3-year or 5-year estimates. For example, the 2008 ACS 1-year Summary File includes hundreds of comma-delimited text files that are best viewed in a spreadsheet or using statistical software.

2012 **2011** 2010 2009 2008 2007 2006 2005

Summary File Data and Documentation

2011 ACS 1-Year Estimates	2009-2011 ACS 3-Year Estimates	2007-2011 ACS 5-Year Estimates
1-Year Summary File	3-Year Summary File	5-Year Summary File
1-Year Tech Document [PDF 3.4MB]	3-Year Tech Document [PDF 3.4MB]	5-Year Tech Document [PDF 3.5MB]
1-Year TableShells [XLS 45MB]	3-Year TableShells [XLS 3.5MB]	5-Year TableShells [XLS 3.4MB]
1-Year Sequence/Table Number Lookup (xls, sas7bdat, or txt)	3-Year Sequence/Table Number Lookup (xls, sas7bdat, txt)	5-Year Sequence/Table Number Lookup (xls, sas7bdat, txt)

Tools for using the ACS Summary File

- [Summary File Retrieval Tool](#) [ZIP 8.9MB] - an Excel Macro tool ideal for downloading 20 tables or less for all published geographies within a state.
 - [User Guide: Summary File Excel Retrieval Tool](#) [PDF 1.0MB]
 - [Video: Accessing Block Group Level Data with the Summary File Retrieval Tool](#)
 - Requires MS Excel 2007 or newer**

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/summary_file/

Check Appendix E for Table

2007-2011 ACS 5-Year Summary File Technical Documentation

Table Number	Table Title	Table Restriction s for All Geographi es Except Block Groups	Table Available for Block Groups on Summary File?	Summary File Sequence Number	Summary File Starting and Ending Positions
B23003	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23004	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23005	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23006	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23007	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23008	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23009	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23010	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23011	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23012	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23013	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23014	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23015	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23016	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23017	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23018	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23019	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23020	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23021	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23022	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23023	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23024	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13
B23025	Marital Status of the Population 15 Years and Over by Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity		Yes	0075	7-13

2007-2011 ACS 5-Year Summary File Technical Documentation

Table Number	Table Title	Table Restriction s for All Geographi es Except Block Groups	Table Available for Block Groups on Summary File?	Summary File Sequence Number	Summary File Starting and Ending Positions
B23025	Employment Status For The Population 16 Years And Over		Yes	0075	7-13

http://www2.census.gov/acs2011_5yr/summaryfile/ACS_2007_2011_SF_Tech_Doc.pdf











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File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

- Census Bureau's storage center for archived and current data
- Includes ACS PUMS and Summary File
- Available at <http://www2.census.gov/>

Summary File Organization

<u>Name</u>	<u>Last modified</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Description</u>
 Parent Directory		-	
 2007-2011 ACSSF All In 2 Giant Files (Experienced-Users-Only) /	20-Dec-2012 13:50	-	
 2007-2011 ACSSF By State All Tables/	27-Nov-2012 13:53	-	
 2007-2011 ACSSF By State By Sequence Table Subset/	27-Nov-2012 13:53	-	
 ACS2011 5-Year TableShells.xls	14-Nov-2012 09:37	2.2M	
 ACS 2007 2011 SF Tech Doc.pdf	30-Nov-2012 11:52	4.7M	
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 Sequence Number and Table Number Lookup.xls	17-Oct-2012 09:21	2.1M	
 UserTools/	05-Dec-2012 13:32	-	


<u>Name</u>
 Parent Directory
 All Geographies Not Tracts Block Groups/
 Tracts Block Groups Only/

http://www2.census.gov/acs2011_5yr/summaryfile/

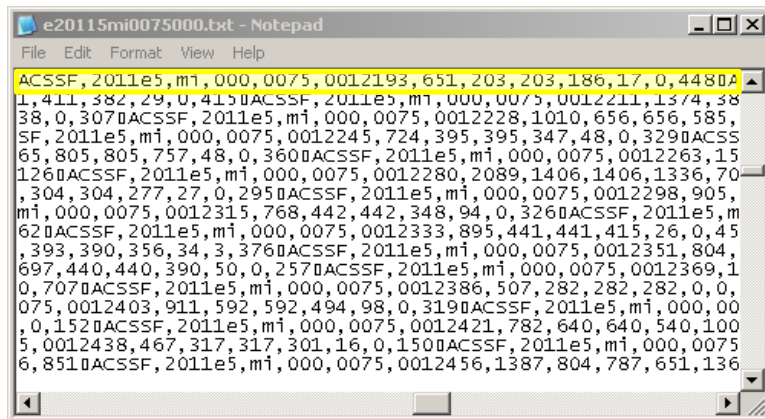
File Naming

2011 5 mi 0075 000.zip

- 2011=reference year
- 5=period covered
- mi=state level
- 0075=sequence number
- 000=iteration ID

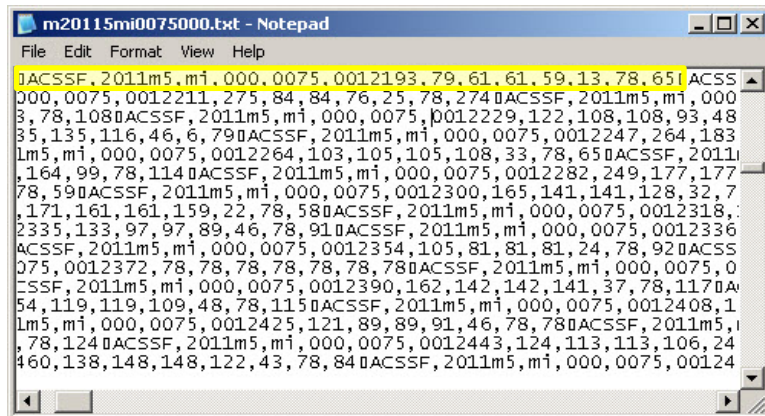


[20115mi0075000.zip](#)
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[20115mi0085000.zip](#)



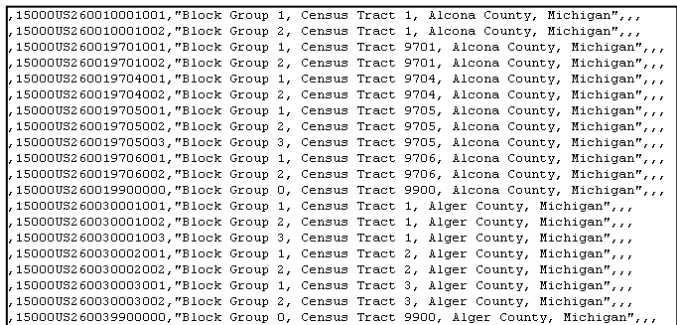
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Estimate file
e20115mi0075000.txt



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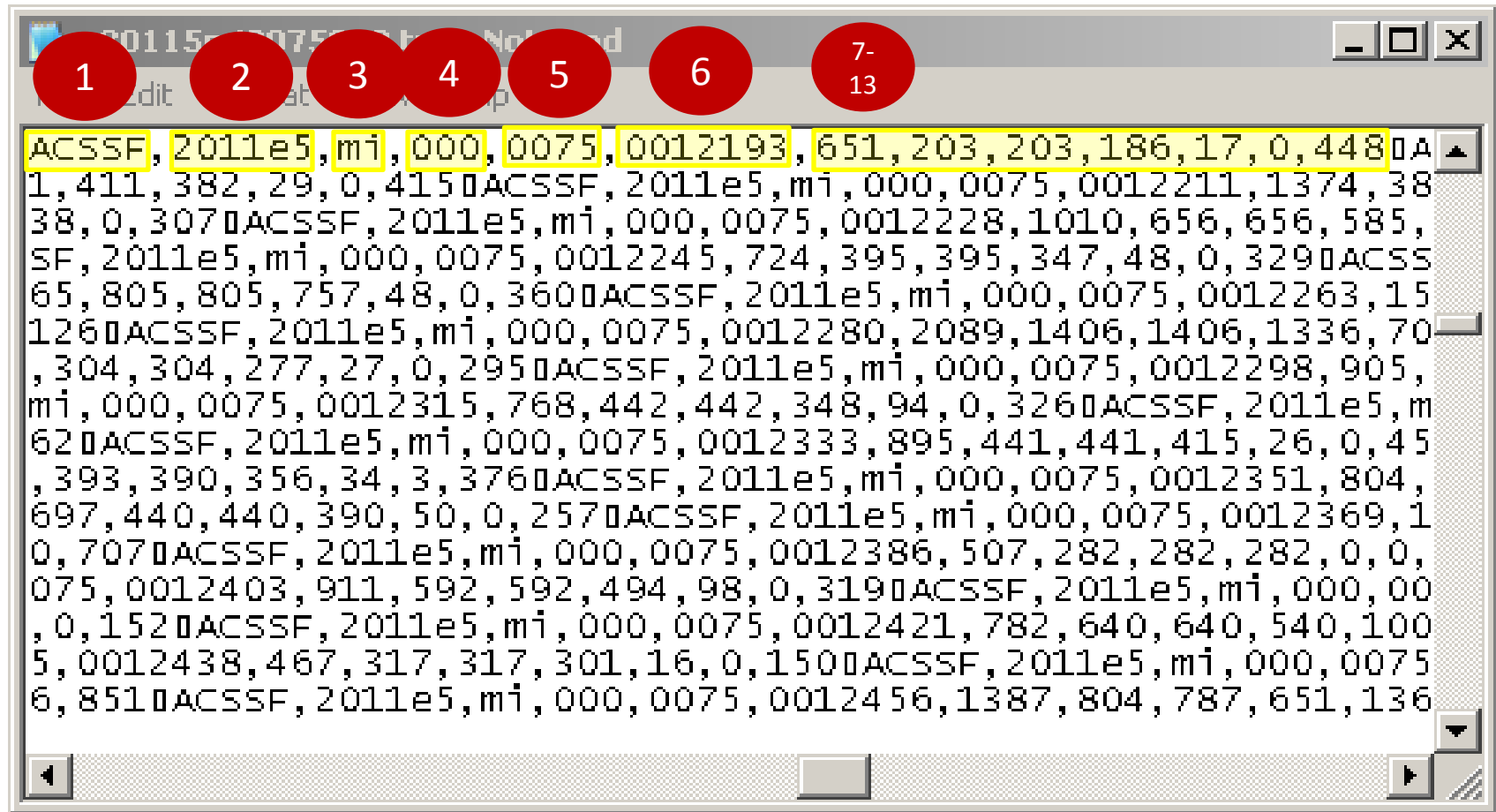
Margin of error file
m20115mi0075000.txt



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Geography file
g20115mi.csv or g20115mi.txt

Starting and Ending Position



Templates

	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	
1	STUSAB	CHARITER	SEQUENCE	LOGRECNO	B23025_001	B23025_002	B23025_003	B23025_004	B23025_005	B23025_006	B23025_007	
2	STUSAB	CHARITER	SEQUENCE	LOGRECNO	Population 16 years and over	Population 16 years and over%In labor force:	Population 16 years and over%In labor force:	Population 16 years and over%In labor force:%Civilian labor force:	Population 16 years and over%In labor force:%Unemployed	Population 16 years and over%In labor force:%Armed Forces	Population 16 years and over%Not in labor force	
2815	mi	0	75	12192	2587	1261	1261	1140	121	0	1326	
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2819	mi	0	75	12196	1327	595	595	519	76	0	732	
2820	mi	0	75	12197	1136	520	520	459	61	0	616	
2821	mi	0	75	12198	1293	703	703	607	96	0	590	

http://www2.census.gov/acs2011_5yr/summaryfile/UserTools/2011_Summary_FileTemplates.zip

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DataFerrett

U.S. Department of Commerce

United States[™]
Census
Bureau

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DataFerrett

DataFerrett is a data analysis and extraction tool to customize federal, state, and local data to suit your requirements. Using DataFerrett, you can develop an unlimited array of customized spreadsheets that are as versatile and complex as your usage demands then turn those spreadsheets into graphs and maps without any additional software.


What you should check before getting started:

- ✖ Java Installed, [Check your version here](#) or [Download the latest version](#)
WARNING: You are not running the most current version of Java 1.7
Oracle highly recommends that you update to the most current version of Java to avoid a potential system security threat.



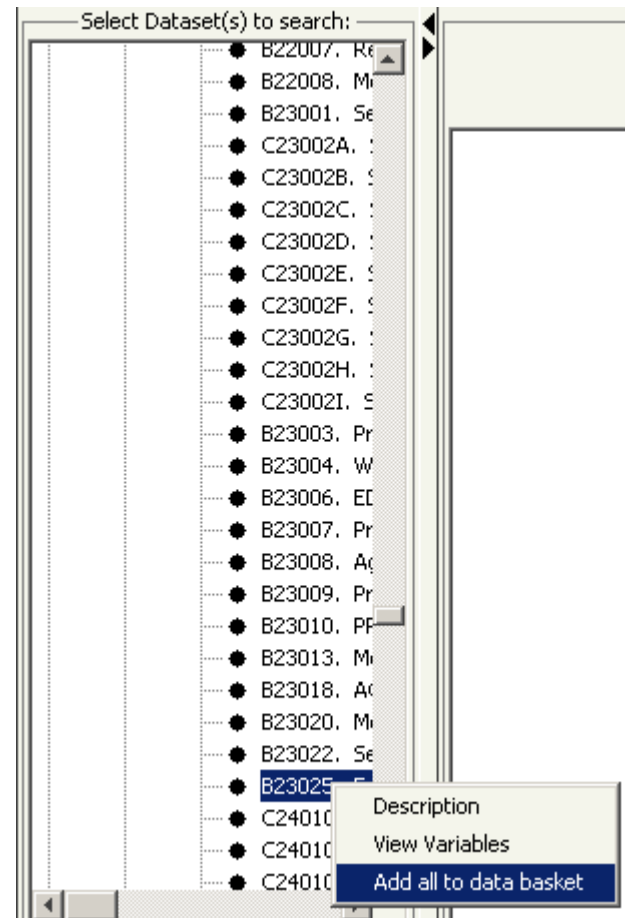
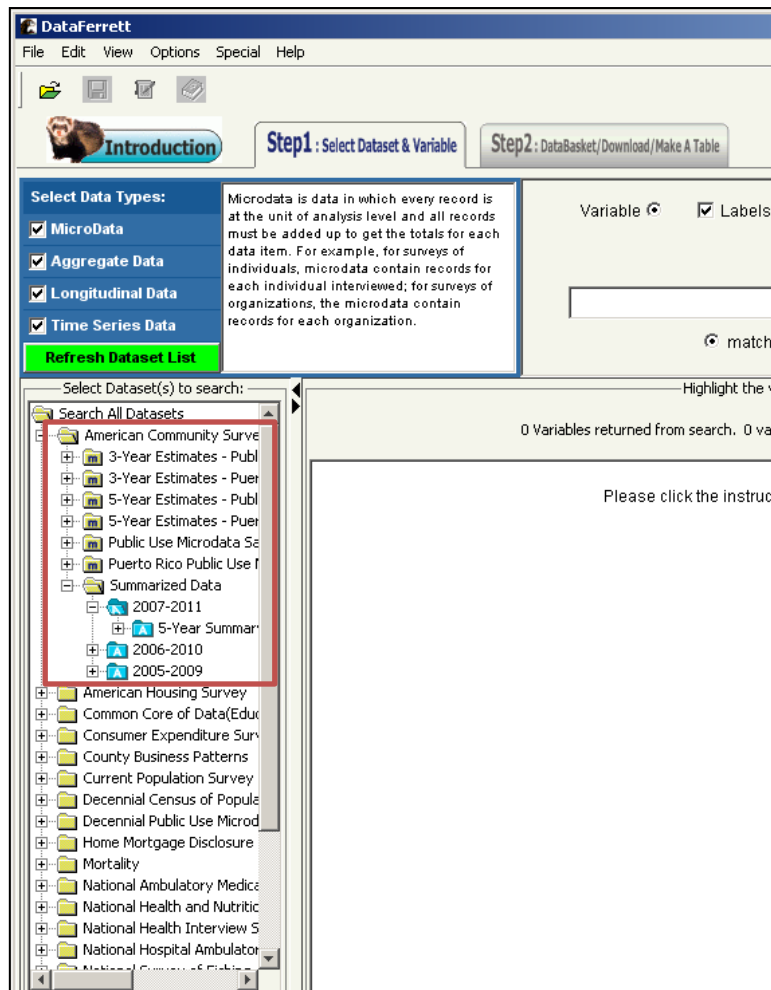
DATAFERRETT

- DataFerrett Home
- Getting Started
- About the Datasets
- User Resources
- FAQs

 Launch DataFerrett

<http://dataferrett.census.gov/>

Finding Summary Data



Select Geographies

Introduction

Step 1: Select Dataset & Variable

Step 2: DataBasket/Download/Make A Table

Select Data Types:
☒ MicroData
☒ Aggregate Data
☒ Longitudinal Data
☒ Time Series Data

Microdata is data in which every record is at the unit of analysis level and all records must be added up to get the totals for each data item. For example, for surveys of individuals, microdata contain records for each individual interviewed; for surveys of organizations, the microdata contain records for each organization.

Variable ☒ Labels ☐ Names ☐ Topics ☐ Question Text ☐ Values

☒ match ANY word ☐ match ALL words

Search

Instructions
 Empty DataBasket

Select Dataset(s) to search:

Highlight the variables you are interested in

7 Variables returned from search. 8 variables selected in DataBasket.

REQUIRED VARIABLES

Selected	Topic	Name	Availability	Variable Label
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Default value selected for you	Selectable Geographies	COMPONENT	2005-2009 - current	Geographic Component
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be selected	Selectable Geographies	Geography	2005-2009 - current	Geographic Items

REGULAR VARIABLES

Topic	Name	Availability	Variable Label	Mergeat
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_001E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	Total:	No
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_002E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	In labor force:	No
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_003E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:	No
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_004E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:!!Employed	No
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_005E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:!!Unemployed	No
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_006E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	In labor force:!!Armed Forces	No
B23025, Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	B23025_007E	2007-2011 - 2007-2011	Not in labor force	No

Select Geographies


The screenshot shows the 'Ferrett Geography Codebook' application window. The title bar reads 'Ferrett Geography Codebook'. Below the title bar, there is a toolbar with an information icon and the text 'Browse/Select Geographies'. To the right of the toolbar is an 'Instructions' section with a small icon of a person at a computer and the following text: 'Instructions: Select the type geography from left list. Once selected, either double click or select the hierarchy and click the "Use Hierarchy" button to navigate that hierarchy.'


The main area of the window is divided into three panels. The left panel, titled 'Types of geography available:', contains a list of geographic levels: United States, American Indian/Alaska Native Area and H, Block Group, Combined Statistical Area, Congressional District, County, County Subdivision, Division, Legislative District, Metro Area, Place, Public Microdata Use Area, Region, and School District. The 'Block Group' item is currently selected and highlighted in blue. The middle panel, titled 'Hierarchies:', contains a single entry: 'State (FIPS Code) > County > Census Tract > Block Group', which is highlighted with a red border. The right panel, titled 'Selected Geographic Areas:', is currently empty.

At the bottom of the window, there are several buttons: 'Search', 'Use Hierarchy', 'Cancel', 'Delete Selection', 'Clear All', and 'Finish'.

Next Level-State

Ferrett Geography Codebook

 **Select State (FIPS Code)**

 **Instructions:**
Drag geographies to drop into to the right list.
Drag final selections to the "Selected Geographic Areas" list.
Clicking a link at the top will drop directly into that level of the hierarchy.

[Home](#) >> [State \(FIPS Code\)](#) >> [County](#) >> [Census Tract](#) >> [Block Group](#)

Select State (FIPS Code)

Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri

Search:


State (FIPS Code)(s) to drop into.


Michigan

Selected Geographic Areas:

Next Level-County

Ferrett Geography Codebook

 **Select County**

 **Instructions:**
Drag geographies to drop into to the right list.
Drag final selections to the "Selected Geographic Areas" list.
Clicking a link at the top will drop directly into that level of the hierarchy.

[Home](#) >> [State \(FIPS Code\)](#) >> [County](#) >> [Census Tract](#) >> [Block Group](#)

Select County

Select All

Alcona County, Michigan
Alger County, Michigan
Allegan County, Michigan
Alpena County, Michigan
Antrim County, Michigan
Arenac County, Michigan
Baraga County, Michigan
Barry County, Michigan
Bay County, Michigan

Search:

County(s) to drop into.

Clear All Delete Selection

Alcona County, Michigan
Alger County, Michigan
Allegan County, Michigan
Alpena County, Michigan
Antrim County, Michigan
Arenac County, Michigan
Baraga County, Michigan
Barry County, Michigan
Bay County, Michigan
Benzie County, Michigan
Berrien County, Michigan

Selected Geographic Areas:

FIPS State Code Count: 1
Michigan

Search Previous Level **Next Level** Cancel

Delete Selection Clear All Finish

Next Level-Census Tract

Ferrett Geography Codebook

 **Select Census Tract**

 **Instructions:**
Drag geographies to drop into to the right list.
Drag final selections to the "Selected Geographic Areas" list.
Clicking a link at the top will drop directly into that level of the hierarchy.

[Home](#) >> [State \(FIPS Code\)](#) >> [County](#) >> [Census Tract](#) >> [Block Group](#)

Select Census Tract

Select All

Census Tract 1, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9701, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9704, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9705, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9706, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9900, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 1, Alger County, Michigan
Census Tract 2, Alger County, Michigan

Search:

Census Tract(s) to drop into.

Clear All Delete Selection

Census Tract 1, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9701, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9704, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9705, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9706, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 9900, Alcona County, Michigan
Census Tract 1, Alger County, Michigan
Census Tract 2, Alger County, Michigan
Census Tract 3, Alger County, Michigan
Census Tract 9900, Alger County, Michigan
Census Tract 302, Allegan County, Michigan

Search Previous Level **Next Level** Cancel


Selected Geographic Areas:


FIPS State Code	Count: 1
Michigan	

Delete Selection Clear All Finish

Next Level-Block Group

Ferrett Geography Codebook

 **Select Block Group**

 **Instructions:**
Drag geographies to drop into to the right list.
Drag final selections to the "Selected Geographic Areas" list.
Clicking a link at the top will drop directly into that level of the hierarchy.

[Home](#) >> [State \(FIPS Code\)](#) >> [County](#) >> [Census Tract](#) >> [Block Group](#)

Select Block Group

Select All

Block Group 1, Census Tract 29.02, Ingha
Block Group 2, Census Tract 29.02, Ingha
Block Group 3, Census Tract 29.02, Ingha
Block Group 1, Census Tract 31.03, Ingha
Block Group 2, Census Tract 31.03, Ingha
Block Group 3, Census Tract 31.03, Ingha
Block Group 4, Census Tract 31.03, Ingha
Block Group 5, Census Tract 31.03, Ingha

Search:

Block Group(s) to drop into.

Clear All Delete Selection

Please drag wanted geographies to "Selected Geographies" panel to the right.

Selected Geographic Areas: 8205 Block Group(s) added.

Block Group Count: 8205

Block Group 1, Census Tract 29.02, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 2, Census Tract 29.02, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 3, Census Tract 29.02, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 1, Census Tract 31.03, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 2, Census Tract 31.03, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 3, Census Tract 31.03, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 4, Census Tract 31.03, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 5, Census Tract 31.03, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 6, Census Tract 31.03, Ingham County, Mich
Block Group 1, Census Tract 32, Ingham County, Michigar
Block Group 2, Census Tract 32, Ingham County, Michigar
Block Group 1, Census Tract 33.01, Ingham County, Mich

Search Previous Level Next Level Cancel Delete Selection Clear All **Finish**

Step 2



Introduction

Step1 : Select Dataset & Variable

Step2 : DataBasket/Download/Make A Table

Review your variables then go back to select more variables or go on to get data



Current Query Variables from ACS Summarized Data (5-Year Summary File):

Name	Variable Label	Availability
B23025_001E	Total:	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
B23025_002E	In labor force:	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
B23025_003E	In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
B23025_004E	In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:!!Employed	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
B23025_005E	In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:!!Unemployed	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
B23025_006E	In labor force:!!Armed Forces	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
B23025_007E	Not in labor force	2007-2011 - 2007-2011
COMPONENT	Geographic Component	2005-2009 - current
GEOG-101	Block Group	2007-2011 - 2007-2011

Make Table



Results

Ferrett Tabulation

File Edit Format View Options Help

GO Get Data


Formula Bar

Pivot(s) can be dropped on pivot image above R1.

	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
R9770	Block Group 3, Census Tract 66, Jackson County, Michigan	1,428	983		983
R9771	Block Group 1, Census Tract 1, Alcona County, Michigan	651	203		203
R9772	Block Group 2, Census Tract 1, Alcona County, Michigan	1,037	402		402
R9773	Block Group 1, Census Tract 9706, Alcona County, Michigan	773	280		280
R9774	Block Group 2, Census Tract 9706, Alcona County, Michigan	550	264		264
R9775	Block Group 1, Census Tract 2, Alger County, Michigan	1,226	635		635
R9776	Block Group 2, Census Tract 2, Alger County, Michigan	1,312	737		737
R9777	Block Group 1, Census Tract 302, Allegan County, Michigan	1,669	1,187		1,187
R9778	Block Group 2, Census Tract 302, Allegan County, Michigan	1,162	807		807
R9779	Block Group 1, Census Tract 307.03, Allegan County, Michigan	1,130	722		722
R9780	Block Group 2, Census Tract 307.03, Allegan County, Michigan	741	417		417
R9781	Block Group 1, Census Tract 313, Allegan County, Michigan	1,165	805		805
R9782	Block Group 2, Census Tract 313, Allegan County, Michigan	1,576	1,048		1,048
R9783	Block Group 3, Census Tract 313, Allegan County, Michigan	1,055	724		724
R9784	Block Group 1, Census Tract 322, Allegan County, Michigan	2,089	1,406		1,406
R9785	Block Group 2, Census Tract 322, Allegan County, Michigan	934	540		540
R9786	Block Group 3, Census Tract 322, Allegan County, Michigan	1,134	611		611
R9787	Block Group 1, Census Tract 5, Alpena County, Michigan	416	242		242
R9788	Block Group 2, Census Tract 5, Alpena County, Michigan	657	472		451
R9789	Block Group 3, Census Tract 5, Alpena County, Michigan	581	432		432
R9790	Block Group 0, Census Tract 9900, Alpena County, Michigan	0	0		0
R9791	Block Group 1, Census Tract 9606, Antrim County, Michigan	712	348		348
R9792	Block Group 2, Census Tract 9606, Antrim County, Michigan	434	328		328
R9793	Block Group 3, Census Tract 9606, Antrim County, Michigan	641	304		304
R9794	Block Group 4, Census Tract 9606, Antrim County, Michigan	841	466		466
R9795	Block Group 0, Census Tract 9900, Arenac County, Michigan	0	0		0
R9796	Block Group 1, Census Tract 1, Baraga County, Michigan	473	201		201
R9797	Block Group 2, Census Tract 1, Baraga County, Michigan	1,058	577		577
R9798	Block Group 3, Census Tract 1, Baraga County, Michigan	1,055	534		533
R9799	Block Group 4, Census Tract 1, Baraga County, Michigan	697	440		440
R9800	Block Group 0, Census Tract 9901, Baraga County, Michigan	0	0		0
R9801	Block Group 1, Census Tract 108, Benzie County, Michigan	1,201	722		722

B23025_001E Total:
 B23025_002E In labor force:
 B23025_003E In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:
 B23025_004E In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:!!Empl
 B23025_005E In labor force:!!Civilian labor force:!!Unem
 B23025_006E In labor force:!!Armed Forces
 B23025_007E Not in labor force
 COMPONENT Geographic Component
 GEOG-101 Block Group

Universe: (COMPONENT in (00)) AN
 Weight used: Unweighted
 DataSer(s) selected: 2007-2011



Outline

- American Community Survey (ACS) basics
- Tracts and block groups
- Overview of ACS Summary File (ACS SF)
- Ways to access the ACS SF
 - FTP site
 - DataFerrett
 - **Summary File Retrieval Tool**
- Wrap up

Summary File Retrieval Tool

- Tool allows users to load tables from the ACS SF into an Excel spreadsheet
- Must have Excel 2007 or newer to run tool
- You can access all tracts and block groups per table per state
- Available at
http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/summary_file/

Summary File Page

Census.gov > American Community Survey > Data & Documentation: Summary File

American Community Survey

[Main](#) |
 [About the Survey](#) |
 [Guidance for Data Users](#) |
 [Data & Documentation](#) |
 [Methodology](#) |
 [Library](#)

- Data Releases
- Data Product Descriptions
- Documentation
- Geography
- Downloadable data via FTP
- Summary File**
- Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)
- Custom Tabulations

Summary File

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 [Share this page](#) |
 [Connect with us](#)

An ACS Summary File is a set of comma-delimited text files that contain all of the Detailed Tables for the ACS 1-year, 3-year or 5-year estimates. For example, the 2008 ACS 1-year Summary File includes hundreds of comma-delimited text files that are best viewed in a spreadsheet or using statistical software.

[2012](#) |
 [2011](#) |
 [2010](#) |
 [2009](#) |
 [2008](#) |
 [2007](#) |
 [2006](#) |
 [2005](#)

Summary File Data and Documentation

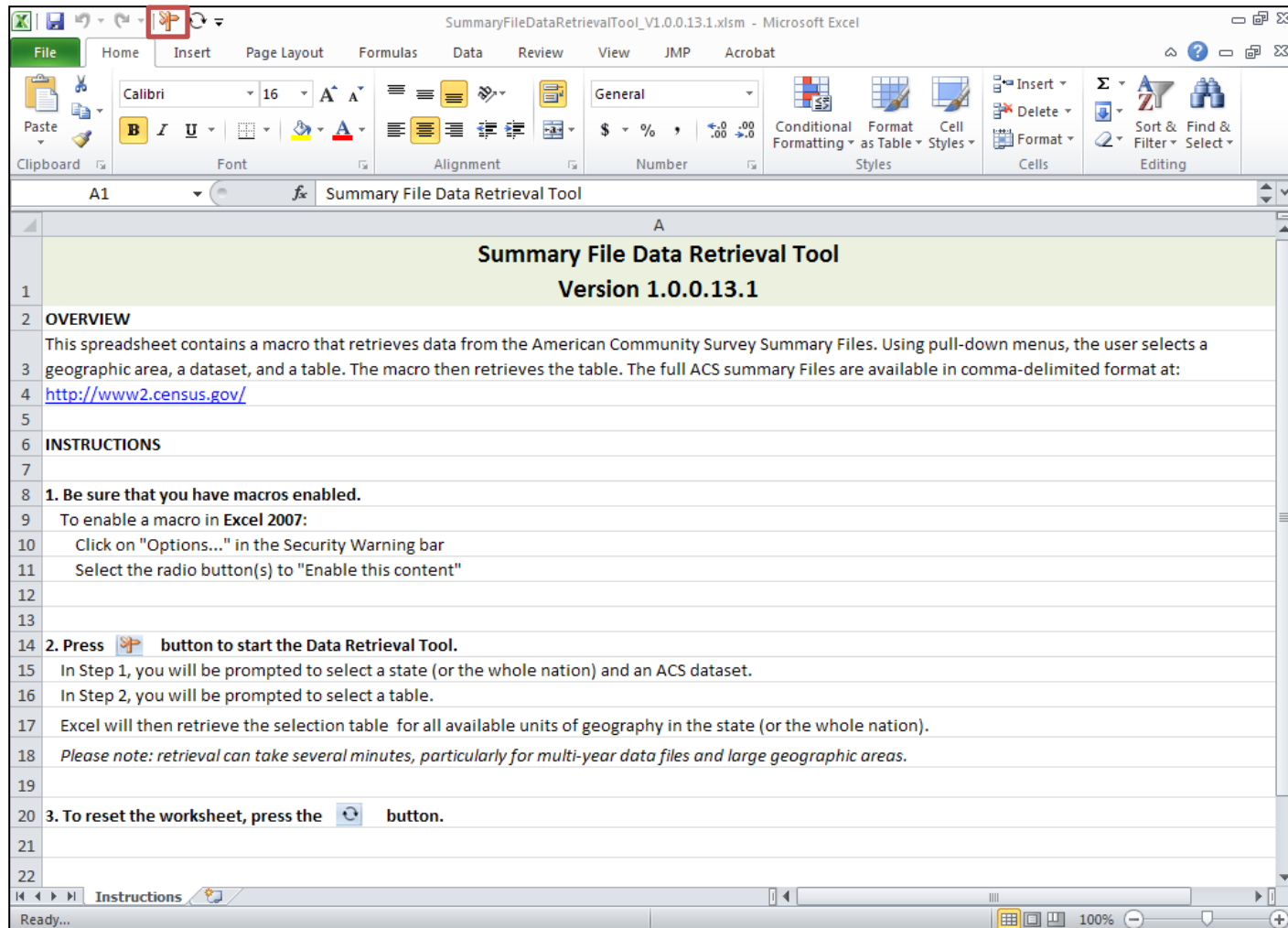
2011 ACS 1-Year Estimates	2009-2011 ACS 3-Year Estimates	2007-2011 ACS 5-Year Estimates
1-Year Summary File	3-Year Summary File	5-Year Summary File
1-Year Tech Document [PDF 3.4MB]	3-Year Tech Document [PDF 3.4MB]	5-Year Tech Document [PDF 3.5MB]
1-Year TableShells [XLS 45MB]	3-Year TableShells [XLS 3.5MB]	5-Year TableShells [XLS 3.4MB]
1-Year Sequence/Table Number Lookup (xls, sas7bdat, or txt)	3-Year Sequence/Table Number Lookup (xls, sas7bdat, txt)	5-Year Sequence/Table Number Lookup (xls, sas7bdat, txt)

Tools for using the ACS Summary File

- [Summary File Retrieval Tool](#) [ZIP 8.9MB] - an Excel Macro tool ideal for downloading 20 tables or less for all published geographies within a state.
 - [User Guide: Summary File Excel Retrieval Tool](#) [PDF 1.0MB]
 - [Video: Accessing Block Group Level Data with the Summary File Retrieval Tool](#)
 - Requires MS Excel 2007 or newer**

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/summary_file/

SF Retrieval Tool



Step 1 of 2

SummaryFileDataRetrievalTool_V1.0.0.13.1.xlsm - Microsoft Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View JMP Acrobat

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing

Summary File Data Retrieval Tool

Summary File Data Retrieval Tool
Version 1.0.0.13.1

OVERVIEW

This spreadsheet contains a macro that retrieves data from the American Community Survey Summary Files. Using pull-down menus, the user selects a geographic area, a data product, and a table. The user can then select the format at which the data is retrieved.

Step 1 of 2: Select a major geographic area and dataset

Select a State : MI --- Michigan


Data Product: 5-Year (2007-2011)

Next Cancel Clear Form

3-Year (2008-2010)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Be sure that you have the Data Retrieval Tool installed on your computer. To enable a macro in the spreadsheet, click on "Options..." in the Excel Options dialog box, and select the radio button for "Enable macros that are disabled by default".


2. Press the  button to start the Data Retrieval Tool.

In Step 1, you will be prompted to select a state (or the whole nation) and an ACS dataset.

In Step 2, you will be prompted to select a table.

Excel will then retrieve the selection table for all available units of geography in the state (or the whole nation).

Please note: retrieval can take several minutes, particularly for multi-year data files and large geographic areas.

3. To reset the worksheet, press the  button.

Instructions

Ready

Step 2 of 2

SummaryFileDataRetrievalTool_V1.0.0.13.1.xlsm - Microsoft Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View JMP Acrobat

Calibri 16

General

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing

ACSSF

fileid Table ID seq Line Number Decimal M Lines position cells total Long Table Title

1

2 ACSSF B00001

3 ACSSF B00001

4 ACSSF B00001

5 ACSSF B00002

6 ACSSF B00002

7 ACSSF B00002

8 ACSSF B01001

9 ACSSF B01001

10 ACSSF B01001

11 ACSSF B01001

12 ACSSF B01001

13 ACSSF B01001

14 ACSSF B01001

15 ACSSF B01001

16 ACSSF B01001 2 7 . . 18 and 19 years

17 ACSSF B01001 2 8 . . 20 years

18 ACSSF B01001 2 9 . . 21 years

19 ACSSF B01001 2 10 . . 22 to 24 years

20 ACSSF B01001 2 11 . . 25 to 29 years

21 ACSSF B01001 2 12 . . 30 to 34 years

22 ACSSF B01001 2 13 . . 35 to 39 years

23 ACSSF B01001 2 14 . . 40 to 44 years

24 ACSSF B01001 2 15 . . 45 to 49 years

Step 2 of 2: Table Lookup

Select Table Name by ID or by Table Description

Select by Table ID Select by Table Description

Table Name by ID: B23025

☒ Tracts and Block Groups ONLY (no checkmark defaults to all Geographies NOT including Tracts and Block Groups)

☐ Merge Estimates with Margin of Errors (This will take time to perform depending on the table size selected)

Next Cancel Clear Form

Ready Metadata Geography Estimates MarginOfError Merge Instructions 100%

Results-Estimates

SummaryFileDataRetrievalTool_V1.0.0.13.1.xlsm - Microsoft Excel

File

Home

Insert

Page Layout

Formulas

Data

Review

View

JMP

Acrobat

Paste

Clipboard

Calibri

11

Font

Alignment

Text

Number

Conditional Formatting

Format as Table

Format

Cell Styles

Styles

Insert

Delete

Format

Cells

Σ

Sort & Find & Filter

Editing

A3

ACSSF

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Table: B23025 - EMPLOYMENT STATUS FOR THE POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER										
2	File Type	Estimate Type	State	County	Sequence Number	LOGREC NO	Geo Name	B23025 Total:	B23025 In labor force:	B23025 Civilian labor force:	B23025 Employed
2816	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012193	Block Group 1, Census Tract 1, Alcona County, Michigan	651	203	203	186
2817	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012194	Block Group 2, Census Tract 1, Alcona County, Michigan	1037	402	402	355
2818	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012195	Block Group 1, Census Tract 9701, Alcona County, Michigan	955	415	415	371
2819	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012196	Block Group 2, Census Tract 9701, Alcona County, Michigan	1327	595	595	519
2820	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012197	Block Group 1, Census Tract 9704, Alcona County, Michigan	1136	520	520	459
2821	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012198	Block Group 2, Census Tract 9704, Alcona County, Michigan	1293	703	703	607
2822	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012199	Block Group 1, Census Tract 9705, Alcona County, Michigan	715	283	283	217
2823	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012200	Block Group 2, Census Tract 9705, Alcona County, Michigan	513	236	236	170
2824	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012201	Block Group 3, Census Tract 9705, Alcona County, Michigan	748	215	215	174
2825	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012202	Block Group 1, Census Tract 9706, Alcona County, Michigan	773	280	280	225
2826	ACSSF	2011e5	mi	000	0075	0012203	Block Group 2, Census Tract 9706, Alcona County, Michigan	550	264	264	196
							Block Group 0, Census Tract 9900, Alcona County, Michigan				

MetaData

Geography

Estimates

MarginOfError

Instructions

Video on Using SF Retrieval Tool



<http://www.youtube.com/user/uscensusbureau>

Outline

- American Community Survey (ACS) basics
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 - Summary File Retrieval Tool
- **Wrap up**

Recap

- Tracts and block groups are only available as 5-year estimates (not 1-year or 3-year)
- Block group level estimates are not available in American FactFinder; you must use the ACS Summary File
- You can access the ACS SF using the FTP site, DataFerrett, or SF Retrieval Tool

Block Groups in 3 Steps

1-Verify your table is available at the block group level (check Appendix E in SF Tech Doc)

2-Find your block group using TIGERweb

3-Use your tool of choice to find table(s)

Stay in Touch

- Join the ACS Data Users Group
 - <http://www.acsdatausers.org/>
- Get ACS email updates
 - https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCENSUS/subscriber/new?category_id=USCENSUS_C12
- Submit questions
 - <https://ask.census.gov/>
- Contact the call center
 - 1-800-923-8282

Questions?